



# STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item:** 6.B

**Report To:** Open Space Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** February 21, 2023

**Staff Contact:** Gregg Berggren, Trails Coordinator, [gberggren@carson.org](mailto:gberggren@carson.org)

**Agenda Title:** For Discussion Only: Trails Coordinator Report - Activities related to trail projects managed by the Open Space Division, including trail-related grants, programs, and events.

**Staff Summary:** See Attachment 1 – Trails Coordinator Report

**Agenda Action:** Other/Presentation

**Time Requested:** 10 minutes

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## **Proposed Motion**

N/A

## **Board's Strategic Goal**

Quality of Life

## **Previous Action**

N/A

## **Background/Issues & Analysis**

See Attachment 1 – Trails Coordinator Report

## **Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation**

N/A

## **Financial Information**

Is there a fiscal impact? ☐ Yes ☒ No

## Trails Coordinator Report

Gregg Berggren, February 21, 2023

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### Capital to Tahoe Trail

After eight years of planning and construction, just two miles of build remain for this first of its kind single-track connection from Carson City to the Lake Tahoe Basin. Those two miles will be completed this summer, and in the meantime an old road provides a temporary work-around. The full trek from Carson City to the Lake Tahoe Basin includes the 4.2-mile Lincoln Bypass, 2.6 miles of the Ash-to-Kings Trail, and a 9.9-mile Capital to Tahoe Trail, for a total of 16.7 miles. The west end of the Capital to Tahoe trail joins the Tahoe Rim Trail, which joins the Pacific Crest Trail, so a person may begin on the steps of our Capital and hike all the way to Canada or Mexico! A grand opening celebration is planned for July 8 at Spooner Lake State Park.

### Capital to Tahoe Trail Connectivity

	<i>Miles</i>	<i>Miles</i>
Capital steps to Lincoln Bypass at Longview TH	1.5	1.5
Lincoln Bypass to Ash-to-Kings Trail	4.2	4.2
Ash-to-Kings Trail to Capital-to-Tahoe Trail	2.6	2.6
Cap-to-Tahoe Trail to Tahoe Rim Trail	9.9	9.9
Tahoe Rim Trail to PCT north Jct.	66.6	
Tahoe Rim Trail to PCT south Jct.		55.4
North Jct. to Canada	1,521.7	
South Jct. to Mexico		1,078.2
<b>Total – Steps of the Capital to Canada</b>	<b>1,606.5</b>	
<b>Total – Steps of the Capital to Mexico</b>		<b>1,151.8</b>

*At right, new logo for the Capital to Tahoe Trail, developed by Visit Carson City.*



### **Prison Hill Non-Motorized Trails**

***Odyssey Trail*** – Muscle Powered, under the lead of Paul Sinnott, completed Phase I of the Odyssey Trail in November. This first phase created a friendly and sustainable connection from the Koontz Lane TH to the Prison Hill Saddle and the North Loop. Future phases will connect to Dead Truck Canyon, and then to the Clearview TH, creating a fun loop.



*Muscle Powered volunteers working on the Odyssey Trail.*



*Steps were created in anticipation of hikers likelihood to cut the turn at this location.*

***Desert Peach Trail*** – We received 2022 funding from a Recreation Trails Program Grant for \$33,712 to build this sustainable connection from the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Loop Trails to the North Loop. Construction estimates came in higher than anticipated, so to reduce costs we created an alternative alignment. By raising the average grade from 6% to 7% we were able to eliminate three turns and reduce overall trail length by about 0.5 miles. We are awaiting Section 106 updates before requesting new estimates.

***Prison Hill Trail West*** – We recently received the Notice of Award for this \$2.4 million SNPLMA grant which will reconstruct the Koontz Lane TH, create safety enhancements to the pedestrian crossing at the corner of Koontz Lane and Edmonds Drive, and construct about 2.5 miles of multi-use pathway to connect the Koontz Lane TH, with the Clearview Drive TH, and then continue to the south end of Prison Hill. It will complete another segment of a planned multi-use trail to circumnavigate Prison Hill.

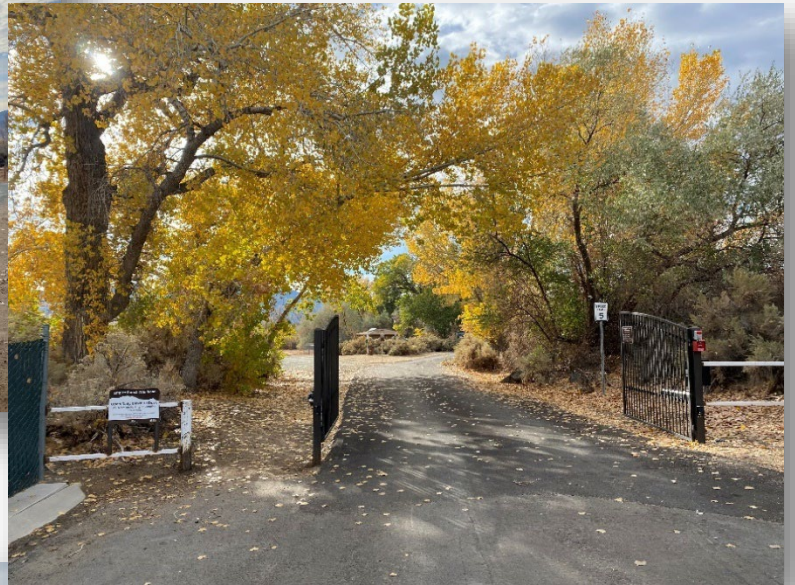
### **Carson River Area Trails**

***Carson River Trail*** – We have an initial recommendation from the Recreational Trails Grant Committee for a 2023 Recreational Trails Program Grant in the amount of \$36,800 to fix a segment of trail just south of the Eagle Creek Bridge that connects the Empire Ranch Trail with Riverview Park. Additionally, the grant will fund new signage to ‘re-brand’ a series of existing trail segments along the Carson River into one ‘Carson River Trail’. Lastly, the grant provides funds for four interpretive signs which will be developed in partnership with the Carson Water Subconservancy District and the Washoe Tribe.



## ATTACHMENT 1

***Empire Ranch Trailhead*** – In November we opened a new trailhead at the end of Empire Ranch Road. The trailhead includes a fenced parking area that accommodates about a dozen vehicles and new wayfinding signage.



*Photos of the new Empire Ranch Trailhead*



## Events

***Adaptive Mountain Bike Workshop*** – On October 7<sup>th</sup> our department hosted an adaptive mountain bike workshop with generous help from April Wolfe, Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, and the City of Reno Adaptive. The event was staged at the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Trailhead where participants had an opportunity to demo adaptive mountain bikes on a variety of trails, including the Prison Hill Trail (connecting to Silver Saddle Ranch) and the more challenging 5<sup>th</sup> Street Loop Trails. We plan to partner with Reno Adaptive for more events in the future.



*Photos from the Adaptive Mountain Bike Workshop*



## ATTACHMENT 1

***Prison Hill OHV Area Grand Re-Opening*** - On Saturday, October 15, Carson City Mayor Lori Bagwell, City Supervisor Lisa Schuette, City Manager Nancy Paulson, Open Space staff, Deputies from the Carson City Sheriff's Office, Visit Carson City, project partners, including the National Off-Highway Conservation Council (NOHVCC), and other guests, conducted a ribbon cutting at the Grand Re-Opening of the Prison Hill OHV Area.

The event, attended by over 50 people, included a rock crawler demo, courtesy of a local crawler group, and a trail ride on the new Toad Rock Loop. The trail ride was thoroughly enjoyed by over 30 people on a beautiful Nevada fall day. We received a lot of positive feedback from participants, many of whom were first-time visitors to Prison Hill.

Our sincere thank you to NOHVCC who provided us with the expertise that we needed to transform this 900-acre location that once attracted illegal dumping and graffiti into a sustainable, family-friendly recreation area with opportunities for all ages and skill levels. We have a Tot-Lot, beginner area, MX track, rock crawler routes, and trails of varying difficulty. Critical funding came from the Nevada Off-Highway Vehicle Program and the Recreational Trails Program.



*Photos from the OHV Area Grand Re-Opening*

## ATTACHMENT 1

***Transportation, Trails, and Tourism Summit*** – Well over 300 people attended some, or all, of this three-day summit held in November at the Renaissance Hotel and Spa in Reno. The summit was hosted by NDOT, the Eastern Sierra Trails Coalition, the Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation, and the Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation. Our Department was an in-kind sponsor. The themes for the summit were *Connecting Sustainable Communities, Collaboration with Stakeholders*, and *Pathways to a Better Quality of Life*.

### **Upcoming Events**

***International Trail Summit*** - American Trails is bringing its bi-annual International Trails Summit to Reno, April 17-21, 2023. This is an exciting opportunity for our region! It has been years in the planning and follows two prior Covid cancellations. One of the field seminars will be held at the Prison Hill OHV Area. This seminar includes a trail ride and project tour. Visit [2023ITS.org](https://2023ITS.org) for more information.

***National Trails Day*** – Saturday, June 3, 2023. Details TBA.

***Capital to Tahoe Trail Grand Opening Celebration*** – Tentatively scheduled for July 8, 2023, at Spooner Lake State Park. Details TBA.

### **Trail Mapping Project**

Open Space is currently working on Phase I of a project to produce a high quality, aesthetically pleasing trail map for the west side of town. The map will highlight the new Capital to Tahoe Trail and include all the trails in the Kings Canyon, Ash Canyon, Timberline, and C-Hill areas. It will include a version downloadable to mobile devices. Phase II will map the east side trails, including Prison Hill and the Carson River area.

### **Volunteer Hours**

Calendar year 2022 – Volunteer hours related to trails and Open Space.

<b><i>Event/Organization</i></b>	<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Location</i></b>	<b><i># People</i></b>	<b><i>Total Hours</i></b>	<b><i>Monetary Value</i></b>
Pokemon Go Trash Clean-up	2/27/2022	Ambrose Natural Area	1	2	\$59.90
NV Army National Guard Clean-Up	3/6/2022	5 <sup>th</sup> St/Edmonds	5	10	\$299.50
Saliman Pathway Clean-Up	3/19/2022	Saliman Pathway	10	40	\$1,198.00
Moose Lodge Adopt-A-Trail	4/19/2022	East Silver Saddle Ranch	7	14	\$419.30
Boys and Girls Club Adopt-A-Trail	4/13/2022	Fulstone Wetlands Trail	30	60	\$1,797.00
River Wranglers Trash Clean-Up	5/17/2022	East Silver Saddle Ranch	78	156	\$4,672.20
Kiwanis of the Sierra Nevada Adopt-A-Trail	10/8/2022	Mexican Ditch	6	6	\$179.70
Moose Lodge Adopt-A-Trail	11/6/2022	East Silver Saddle Ranch	3	3	\$89.85
Geocaching Cache In-Cache Out	11/27/2022	Disc Golf Course	18	36	\$1,078.20
Muscle Powered Trail Crews	2022 Total	Various trails	64	3,389.58	\$101,517.92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>3,716.58</b>	<b>\$111,311.57</b>